Rajyasevapravina M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar: I do not remember.

Mr. Kottur Kunjukrishna Pillai: In view of the Government circular that departmental officers are not entitled to make any declaration of policy on behalf of Government, will the Government be pleased to enquire into the matter?

Rajyasevapravina M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar: Government will look into it.

Construction of bridges and culverts in Central Travancore.

39. ***Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla** (*Mavelikara and Tiruvalla* cum *Pathanamthitta*): Will the Government be pleased to state why no attempts have been made to start the construction of bridges and culverts in the State especially in Central Travancore though provision has been made for them in the budget year after year.

Mr. I. C. Chacko (*Executive Engineer, Trivandrum, in charge of the duties of the Chief Engineer*): All works for which there is budget sanction and estimate provision are invariably taken up for execution during the year itself. But in some cases actual construction is delayed owing to unforeseen circumstances as change in design revision of estimate and delay in land acquisition

Mr. K. K. Kuruvilla: May I know whether the delay in the execution of works is due to in-efficiency of the subordinates.

Mr. I. C. Chacko: No, Sir.

Amount realised by text book writers and booksellers.

40. ***Mr. G. Narayana Aiyar** (*Parur Kunnatnad and Muvattupuzha* cum *Devicolam*): Will the Government be pleased to state the approximate amount realised by text book writers and booksellers per annum by the sale of text books in the State?

Rajyasevapravina M. K. Nilakanta Aiyar: Government have no information in the matter.

Ophthalmic Hospital, Trivandrum.

41. **Mr. James Fletcher**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Ophthalmic Hospital, Trivandrum, is manned by doctors who have special training in eye diseases;

(*b*) if there are doctors not so specialised, the names of such doctors and qualifications;

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[Mr. James Fletcher]

(*c*) whether there are doctors having special training in eye diseases employed in other sections of the Medical Department ; and

(*d*) whether the Department has any good reason for employing untrained doctors in the Ophthalmic Hospital ?

Vaidyasastrakusala Dr. (Mrs.) M. Poonen Lukose : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) In view of answer to part (*a*) this does not arise.

(*c*) There are some officers working in other sections who had training in the Ophthalmic Hospital.

(*d*) It is only by posting Medical Officers to the Ophthalmic Hospital that they can get training in the treatment of eye diseases.

Mr. James Fletcher : With reference to the answer to part (*a*), may I know whether the special training referred to in the answer is training recognised by colleges or schools or only it means that the Doctors spent a few days in the Ophthalmic Hospital ?

Vaidyasastrakusala Dr. (Mrs.) M. Poonen Lukose : There are three Doctors in the Ophthalmic Hospital Sir, Two of them have English qualifications in eye diseases and the third one has been for three years in this Hospital and he has also had previous training in this institution.

Pay-ward of the General Hospital.

42. **Mr. James Fletcher :** Will the Government be pleased o state :

(*a*) the number of beds available for patients in the pay-ward of the General Hospital and whether they are sufficient for the growing needs of the city ;

(*b*) whether the pay-ward is located in the most congenial and attractive part of the General Hospital premises ;

(*c*) whether there is any decent pathway leading to the pay-ward building ; and

(*d*) whether the surrounding land of the ward is kept in a neglected condition.

Vaidyasastrakusala Dr. (Mrs.) M. Poonen Lukose :

(*a*) Seven. This is not sufficient for the growing needs of the hospital.

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